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PATENT 2091-SP145P

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Kazuo SHIOTA et al.

Serial No.:

08/979,567

Group:

2761

Filed:

November 26, 1997

Examiner: G. MorreceiveD

For:

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Group 2700

LETTER

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

February 9, 1999 2091-SP145P

Sir:

Under the provisions of MPEP § 2001.06(b), the Examiner is hereby advised of the following co-pending U.S. Applications:

<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Art Unit</u>
08/970,427	November 14, 1997	2765
08/979.568	November 26, 1997	2851

The subject matter contained in the above-listed co-pending U.S. applications may be deemed to relate to the present application, and thus may be material to the prosecution of this instant application.

The above-listed co-pending applications are not to be construed as prior art. By bringing the above-listed applications to the attention of the Examiner, Applicants do NOT waive any confidentiality concerning the above-listed co-pending applications or this application. See MPEP § 101. Furthermore, if said applications should not mature into patents, such applications

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should be preserved in secrecy under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 122 and 37 CFR § 1.14.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By_

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